

Dear FCC: I am a concerned citizen who subscribes to XM Satellite radio.

From my travel experience through rural Southwest Virginia, few traditional radio stations are available. Those that are have poor variety, are underfunded, and do not serve the mainstream community. XM Satellite radio offers the best variety and selection available nationwide and proves to be a stiff competitor for the traditional radio station. As such, XM caters to a large cross-section of the community, offering something for everyone, with a diverse selection of music genres and also to include national news, traffic, and weather. These services are invaluable to those who have chosen to subscribe to XM radio.

XM is a paid subscription service--people who listen to XM do so because they have chosen to purchase the XM receiver and pay the monthly subscription fee to receive the services XM provides. As a paid subscription service, XM and its subscribers should not be penalized because satellite radio is successful. XM should be allowed to provide these services and is indeed entitled to provide these services pursuant to the First Amendment to the United States Constitution regardless of whether XM was a satellite station or traditional broadcast station. The fact that XM is a satellite station should not limit the applicability of the First Amendment's assurance of freedom of speech.

Please do not follow the suggestion of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), the organization that represents large radio and television owners, and limit XM's ability to provide paid subscribers with "locally oriented" content, including the new XM Instant Traffic & Weather channels. Further, as a paid XM satellite radio subscriber, it is my position that it should not be up to the National Association of Broadcasters to dictate what you are permitted to hear.

For each of these reasons, I respectfully urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and to support XM's ability to provide the kind of programming that I enjoy and deserve.

Most Sincerely,
M. Suzanne Kerney-Quillen
148 Locust Street
Weber City, Virginia 24290